

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add a new paragraph to the Brief Description of the Drawings section following paragraph [0036]:

FIG. 7D is a cross-sectional view of a multifunction adaptor attached to a tunneler.

Please amend paragraph [0047] of the specification as follows:

[0047] In another embodiment of the multifunction adaptor of the present invention, a tapered connector housing and removable syringe adaptor assembly 500, which allows a reverse tunneled catheter to be flushed and attached to the tip of a tunneler 50, is illustrated in FIG. 7A. It should be appreciated that the tapered connector housing and removable syringe adaptor could be design features for any of the embodiments described herein. The adaptor assembly 500 includes a tapered connector housing 502 and a removable syringe adaptor 504. As shown in FIG. 7B, a syringe 40 is attached to the syringe adaptor 504 for flushing a catheter 20 attached to the distal end of the connector housing 502. After flushing, the syringe adaptor is detached and discarded from the connector housing/catheter assembly. After the catheter is placed and the tunneler is positioned in the subcutaneous tunnel, the proximal end of the connector housing 502 is slid over the tip of the tunneler 50. A compression ring, such as O-ring 510 ~~110 (FIG. 3)~~, grips the tunneler tip, allowing the catheter to be withdrawn through the subcutaneous tunnel by pulling the connector 502 through to an exit site. As described above, a wall 512 defining a portion of the passageway proximal of the O-ring may be tapered. The connector housing outside diameter creates the desired subcutaneous tunnel diameter while the tapered tip 506 eases the connector/catheter passage. The design allows use of a standard tunneler, a tunneler with a locking notch, or a tunneler with shallow threads at the tip to allow the tunneler to be removed (unthreaded) from the connector housing.